

August 15, 1968

TO : [REDACTED]

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : Operational Activities [REDACTED]

REFERENCE: Your memo dated August 9, 1968, same subject.

1. Thank you for your referenced memorandum. It is very timely and informative to me; I feel that every 60-90 days a review of the operations and the manner in which you have reported them is wise and necessary. For the moment I wish to comment in general to the following.

a. The Principle Mission

The principle mission of the MERRIMACK apparatus will continue to be to provide timely advance notice of impending demonstrations in order to protect the P. O.'s personnel, assets, and installations on a long range basis.

b. EI (Essential Elements of Information)

For the moment I do not wish to change the current EI as outlined in your memorandum insofar as the different targets are concerned. I do feel, however, that a review of the EI must be made as each new target requirement is levied upon us. I would suggest for the moment that the EI outlined in your memorandum that was supplemented to you in September, 1967, and January, 1968, continue to be the guidelines for coverage of the following organizations until we have a chance to sit down and review these matters together:

1. Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
2. Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
3. School for Afro-American Thought
4. Washington Ethical Society
5. The American Humanist Association (TAHA)
6. Black Panther Group

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7. War Resisters League (WRL)
8. Black United Front (BUF)
9. Washington Mobilization for Peace (WMP)
10. Washington Urban League
11. The Black Muslims
12. Niggers, Inc.

2. There are two areas which I wish to re-emphasize to you in the management of the MERRIMACK program. The first area concerns the reports being submitted by members of the MERRIMACK operation. I feel that more emphasis should be placed by you and your staff on your MERRIMACK personnel regarding the following:

a. When attending meetings continue reporting place attended, sponsor of meeting, time of meeting, identify speakers at meeting, and give gist of the topic of the speech or lecture given.

b. Continue reporting remarks about the Parent Organization and its affiliates and other United States Government Intelligence Agencies.

c. Threatening remarks against leaders of our Government.

d. Reports of possible demonstrations.

e. An evaluation by the MERRIMACK employee as to the attitudes, trends, and possible developments of activities within the dissident or Black Power movements.

3. The above should not be considered as new FBI. Most of the above is being reported by MERRIMACK personnel but re-emphasis by you to them on how to report this information is necessary.

4. The second area concerns your relationship with the MERRIMACK agents. Again, I wish to re-emphasize that you are to begin phasing out yourself from direct contact with the agent apparatus in order that your time may be spent improving and developing the image of your organization. In this regard and in line with my conversations with you orally in your office in the presence of my deputy and ~~others~~ I am looking to ~~you~~ to be the main agent handler for Project MERRIMACK.

5. In response to your recommendations to assist you in carrying out your responsibilities, I wish to advise you of the following:

a. For budgetary reasons, we can only afford ~~to~~ at the moment which you are currently making arrangements for.

b. A training course will be established in accordance with our discussions; however, I believe that ~~Smith~~, time permitting, could provide this training himself to the MERRIMACK apparatus. I would like his comments in this regard.

c. Requirements for ~~the~~ activity will be levied within the next sixty days.

d. The subject of additional agents, for budgetary reasons, cannot be considered at the moment.

e. Consideration for the employment of an additional professional officer is in the planning stages.

6. Please convey to the MERRIMACK personnel that everyone here is most pleased with their efforts, that we find their information not only beneficial but most helpful in the research and decision making activity being performed by the Parent Organization.

~~15 August 1968~~  
15 August 1968  
cc: Reading file

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